

## Occupational Safety and Health Admin., Labor

## § 1952.295

completion, but does not render judgment on adequacy of performance.

[41 FR 8955, Mar. 2, 1976, as amended at 42 FR 64627, Dec. 27, 1977; 46 FR 42844, 42846, Aug. 25, 1981. Redesignated at 52 FR 34383, Sept. 11, 1987]

### § 1952.293 Compliance staffing benchmarks.

Under the terms of the 1978 Court Order in *AFL-CIO v. Marshall* compliance staffing levels (benchmarks) necessary for a “fully effective” enforcement program were required to be established for each State operating an approved State plan. In July 1986 Nevada, in conjunction with OSHA, completed a reassessment of the levels initially established in 1980 and proposed revised compliance staffing benchmarks of 11 safety and 5 health compliance officers. After opportunity for public comment and service on the AFL-CIO, the Assistant Secretary approved these revised staffing requirements on September 2, 1987.

[52 FR 34383, Sept. 11, 1987]

### § 1952.294 Final approval determination.

(a) In accordance with section 18(e) of the Act and procedures in 29 CFR Part 1902, and after determination that the State met the “fully effective” compliance staffing benchmarks as revised in 1986 in response to a court order in *AFL-CIO v. Marshall*, 570 F.2d 1030 (D.C. Cir 1978), and was satisfactorily providing reports to OSHA through participation in the Federal-State Integrated Management Information System, the Assistant Secretary evaluated actual operations under the Nevada State plan for a period of at least one year following certification of completion of developmental steps. Based on an 18(e) Evaluation Report covering the period July 1, 1995 through March 31, 1999, and after opportunity for public comment, the Assistant Secretary determined that in operation the State of Nevada’s occupational safety and health program is at least as effective as the Federal program in providing safe and healthful employment and places of employment and meets the criteria for final State plan approval in section 18(e) of the Act and implementing regulations at 29

CFR Part 1902. Accordingly, the Nevada plan was granted final approval and concurrent Federal enforcement authority was relinquished under section 18(e) of the Act effective April 18, 2000.

(b) Except as otherwise noted, the plan which has received final approval covers all activities of employers and all places of employment in Nevada. The plan does not cover Federal government employers and employees; any private sector maritime activities; employment on Indian land; any contractors or subcontractors on any Federal establishment where the land is determined to be exclusive Federal jurisdiction; and the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), including USPS employees, contract employees, and contractor-operated facilities engaged in USPS mail operations.

(c) Nevada is required to maintain a State program which is at least as effective as operations under the Federal program; to submit plan supplements in accordance with 29 CFR Part 1953; to allocate sufficient safety and health enforcement staff to meet the benchmarks for State staffing established by the U.S. Department of Labor, or any revisions to those benchmarks; and, to furnish such reports in such form as the Assistant Secretary may from time to time require.

[65 FR 20742, Apr. 18, 2000, as amended at 65 FR 36627, June 9, 2000]

### § 1952.295 Level of Federal enforcement.

(a) As a result of the Assistant Secretary’s determination granting final approval to the Nevada State plan under section 18(e) of the Act, effective April 18, 2000, occupational safety and health standards which have been promulgated under section 6 of the Act do not apply with respect to issues covered under the Nevada Plan. This determination also relinquishes concurrent Federal OSHA authority to issue citations for violations of such standards under section 5(a)(2) and 9 of the Act; to conduct inspections and investigations under section 8 (except those necessary to conduct evaluation of the

plan under section 18(f) and other inspections, investigations, or proceedings necessary to carry out Federal responsibilities not specifically preempted by section 18(e)); to conduct enforcement proceedings in contested cases under section 10; to institute proceedings to correct imminent dangers under section 13; and to propose civil penalties or initiate criminal proceedings for violations of the Federal OSH Act under section 17. The Assistant Secretary retains jurisdiction under the above provisions in any proceeding commenced under section 9 or 10 before the effective date of the 18(e) determination.

(b)(1) In accordance with section 18(e), final approval relinquishes Federal OSHA authority only with regard to occupational safety and health issues covered by the Nevada plan. OSHA retains full authority over issues which are not subject to State enforcement under the plan. Thus, Federal OSHA retains its authority relative to safety and health in private sector maritime activities and will continue to enforce all provisions of the Act, rules or orders, and all Federal standards, current or future, specifically directed to any private sector maritime activities (occupational safety and health standards comparable to 29 CFR Parts 1915, shipyard employment; 1917, marine terminals; 1918, longshoring; and 1919, gear certification, as well as provisions of general industry and construction standards (29 CFR Parts 1910 and 1926) appropriate to hazards found in these employments), employment on Indian land, and any contractors or subcontractors on any Federal establishment where the land is determined to be exclusive Federal jurisdiction. Federal jurisdiction is also retained with respect to Federal government employers and employees. Federal OSHA will also retain authority for coverage of the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), including USPS employees, contract employees, and contractor-operated facilities engaged in USPS mail operations.

(2) In addition, any hazard, industry, geographical area, operation or facility over which the State is unable to effectively exercise jurisdiction for reasons which OSHA determines are not re-

lated to the required performance or structure of the plan shall be deemed to be an issue not covered by the State plan which has received final approval, and shall be subject to Federal enforcement. Where enforcement jurisdiction is shared between Federal and State authorities for a particular area, project, or facility, in the interest of administrative practicability Federal jurisdiction may be assumed over the entire project or facility. In any of the aforementioned circumstances, Federal enforcement authority may be exercised after consultation with the State designated agency.

(c) Federal authority under provisions of the Act not listed in section 18(e) is unaffected by final approval of the Nevada State plan. Thus, for example, the Assistant Secretary retains his authority under section 11(c) of the Act with regard to complaints alleging discrimination against employees because of the exercise of any right afforded to the employee by the Act, although such complaints may be referred to the State for investigation. The Assistant Secretary also retains his authority under section 6 of the Act to promulgate, modify or revoke occupational safety and health standards which address the working conditions of all employees, including those in States which have received an affirmative 18(e) determination, although such standards may not be Federally applied. In the event that the State's 18(e) status is subsequently withdrawn and Federal authority reinstated, all Federal standards, including any standards promulgated or modified during the 18(e) period, would be Federally enforceable in that State.

(d) As required by section 18(f) of the Act, OSHA will continue to monitor the operations of the Nevada State program to assure that the provisions of the State plan are substantially complied with and that the program remains at least as effective as the Federal program. Failure by the State to comply with its obligations may result in the suspension or revocation of the final approval determination under Section 18(e), resumption of Federal

enforcement, and/or proceedings for withdrawal of plan approval.

[65 FR 20742, Apr. 18, 2000, as amended at 65 FR 36627, June 9, 2000]

**§ 1952.296 Where the plan may be inspected.**

A copy of the principal documents comprising the plan may be inspected and copied during normal business hours at the following locations: Office of State Programs, Directorate of Federal-State Operations, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room N3700, Washington, DC 20210; Office of the Regional Administrator, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room 415, 71 Stevenson Street, San Francisco, California 94105; Office of the State Designee, Administrator, Nevada Division of Industrial Relations, 400 West King Street, Suite 400, Carson City, Nevada 89703.

[65 FR 20743, Apr. 18, 2000]

**§ 1952.297 Changes to approved plans.**

(a) *Legislation.* (1) On March 29, 1994, the Assistant Secretary approved Nevada's revised statutory penalty levels which are the same as the revised Federal penalty levels contained in section 17 of the Act as amended on November 5, 1990.

(2) [Reserved]

(b) *Notices of violation.* The State submitted a procedure for issuing notices of violation in lieu of citations for certain other than serious violations which the employer agrees to abate. The procedure as modified was approved by the Assistant Secretary on August 24, 1995.

(c) *Legislation.* The State submitted amendments to its Occupational Safety and Health Act, enacted in 1981, which: provide for notices of violation in lieu of citations for certain other than serious violations; delete the authority for temporary variances for other than new standards; allow the Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Appeals Board to employ legal counsel; allow penalty collection actions to be brought in any court of competent jurisdiction; and ensure confidentiality to employees making

statements to the Division of Occupational Safety and Health. Further amendments, enacted in 1989: require the maintenance of specific logs relating to complaints; provide public access to records on complaints, except for confidential information; provide confidentiality for those employees who file complaints or make statements, as well as for files relating to open cases; allow representatives of employees and former employees access to any records which indicate their exposure to toxic materials or harmful physical agents; define representative of employees or former employees; allow health care providers and government employees in the field of public safety, to file complaints; allow for oral complaints; require the division to respond to valid complaints of serious violations immediately and of other violations within 14 days; provide that an employee who accompanies a compliance officer on the inspection is entitled to be paid for the time spent, but that only one employee may accompany the compliance officer during the inspection; allow the Administrator of the Division of Occupational Safety and Health to issue an emergency order to restrain an imminent danger situation; and, double maximum authorized penalty levels. Amendments enacted in 1993 reflect the new State organizational structural by designating the previous Divisions as sections in the Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry. The Assistant Secretary approved these amendments on August 24, 1995.

(d) *Field Operations Manual.* The State's Field Operations Manual, comparable to the Federal Field Operations Manual, through Change 4, was approved by the Assistant Secretary on August 24, 1995.

(e) *Consultation Manual.* The State's Training and Consultation Section Policies and Procedures Manual was approved by the Assistant Secretary on August 24, 1995.

(f) *Occupational Safety and Health Administration Technical Manual.* The State's adoption of the Federal OSHA Technical Manual, through Change 3, with a cover sheet adapting Federal